

dearest & I dwell on the pleasure which
would give us to see you at the Observatory
& each - each likes it he to me to have
to see you the hand of welcome alone
- let welcome - most truly so with you
he to my home whenever that I may
be & so far as I ever can again have
a home on earth. But a trial is in
prospect - we have to leave this dear
abode in May & have just taken a
house in the suburbs of Edinburgh
into which we expect to remove at that
time. The Observatory is the official
residence & our rights to it expires at
Whitsun Tide. Contrary to what I was
once our hope the Successor to the
chair, altho' unmarried - wishes
for the house so no alternative re-
-mains to us. In itself it is a lovely
spot commanding one of the finest
views in the West of Scotland, but for
par other reasons is it endeared to
us as no other residence can be; it
was originally planned by my dearest
& every thing is now almost precisely
as he arranged it - moreover he was
especially attached to the place.

have
I speculated - how have my hopes &
I speculated, on the great, mysterious
change that has passed over our
precious one - not merely with re-
-spect to his cognizance of our thoughts
and doings but that - as it now feels,
~~that~~ far more momentous question
shall be - when the like change has
removed us from human sight -
he re-united to him with perfect
recognition & embrace of the
bond relation in w^h we stood to each
other here. Oh! I often think that if
I knew all this w^h he so, I could stir
sooner fully on my way, looking to the
glorious end of my lonely but not long
journey - & I do believe it but in the
present case, it seems as if - knowledge
only could satisfy. Thus you see my
dear friend how weak & wanting in
faith I am - much do I long to talk
with you face to face on these great &
most interesting subjects & sorry as I
am for the cause, yet greatly do I hope
from what you say, that it may be my
privilege to do so. Now often have my

Still tho' I mourn - deeply & intensely mourn
tho I believe I do not mourn, For truly
do I know & can often feel that not only
are all the dispensations of our Hea-
-venly Father ordered in perfect wis-
-dom but in perfect love as well.

Many are the injuries w^{ch} remain; I have
a tenderly affectionate son & daughter
who are my greatest comforts & I have
the fond remembrance of the com-
-munion with which I was blessed thro
a few fleeting years - a remembrance
w^{ch} will enrich all my earthly future
& I cannot but hope & trust, th^{at} it will
also form a part of the happiness of
Eternity. Oh! that I had the full un-
-doubting assurance w^{ch} you seem to have
that our dear departed ones are even
now near to us in spirit - interested in
our welfare & happiness & permitted it
may be to watch over & preserve us from
evil & ~~cribbing~~ us in the purest after
holiness. Altho this seems to me rea-
-sonable & I sometimes almost realize
it & yet I cannot speak of it from
absolute conviction. Then too, Oh! how

Believe
me ever
sincerely &
affectionately
Yours
E. P. Washburn
My dear Friend



To W. R. Garrison.

Observatory Feb. 1. 1860

I trust you have received a
message forwarded to you through our
mutual friend Wendell Phillips, as I sh-
be long to appear ingrateful for y- kind
letter & sympathy & sweet words & conso-
-lation in this season of unnumberable
anguish. How sure you had known
him who has thus early been removed
from my sight, for then you could the
better have comprehended the extent of
my loss - for I cannot think it possible
that any woman ever had more to
surrender when called to part with the
companion of her bosom than I had.
In heart & heart he was indeed pre-emi-
-nently fitted to make home delightful
in every way & his occupations were so
much confined within doors, that we
were scarcely ever separated even for
a few hours, so that you will not wonder
that I feel the world to be suddenly
changed from a bright & beautiful gar-
-den into a waste & dreary wilderness.